

ELIAS R. ZELLER,



Representative from Madison county, was born in Butler county, Ohio, September 13, 1844, of German descent, his parents having emigrated from Pennsylvania early in the last century. Was reared on a farm and attended the rural schools. Was one of five brothers who grew to maturity, all of whom served in several Ohio regiments during the civil war. At the close of the war he engaged in farming on the old homestead which was sold in 1867 and he then entered Miami University at Oxford, Ohio, from which he graduated in 1871, and received a post graduate degree in 1887. First engaged in the newspaper business as publisher of the *Oxford Citizen*, then was city editor of the *Burlington Iowa Gazette*, then published the *Eldora Herald*, then the *Winterset Madisonian*; has also been correspondent for the *Chicago Times* and other metropolitan papers. In 1873 went to Winterset to take charge of the public schools of that city, and held said position for five years. Was then elected county superintendent, and engaged in county institute work for seven years. Was first assistant secretary of the senate during the Twentieth General Assembly. Was president of the Winterset school board for several years. Is still interested in educational work and has assisted the state superintendent in the examinations most of the time since the new law went into effect, and still does more or less newspaper work. Has a farm near Winterset, the management which he considers his chief occupation. Is a member and local preacher of the Methodist Episcopal church and devotes some of his time to church and Sunday school work. Was married to Miss Hattie Cox in 1879 and has three children. Elected Representative in 1908 and re-elected in 1910. A Republican in politics.



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